
FIRE FACT NO. 052 CHECKLIST(s) :

TITLE : SCHOOL FIRE STATISTICS

CHECKLIST ITEM(s) :

REFERENCE(s) :

PAGE 1 of 4

Educational facilities account for approximately 1% of the reported structure fires each year. State Fire Marshal Fire Prevention Division inspectors as well as other city fire inspectors inspect educational facilities. These inspections ensure the facility exits allow immediate evacuation and the detection systems are operating properly. The success of these inspections can be reflected in the limited number of injuries compared to the number of threatening fires or smoke. There were 25 fires that got beyond the room of origin and there were 87 fires where the smoke got beyond the room of origin for the years 1993 - 1997. There were 315 fires reported during this period. There were 8 fire service injuries and 4 civilian injuries reported during this period. Seven of the eight fire service injuries and two of the four civilian injuries were during non-school hours.

Set fires (incendiary/child playing) accounted for 54% of the educational fires reported. Inspections will not prevent these fires. 74% of the set fires occurred during school hours when the potential for loss of life or injury is the greatest. Sedgwick, Johnson and Riley counties had 50 % of all reported educational facility fires. These same three counties had 66% of the set fires.

78% of the set fires were in bathrooms/assembly areas/hallways. Most were set in trash cans and were set with trash paper with matches or lighters.

Dollar losses over the past five years have fluctuated from a low of \$ 60,000 in 1996 to over \$1.8 million in 1995.

The other 46% of the fires in educational facilities were caused by electrical faults (10%), dryers (6%), smoking (4%), cutting/welding torches (4%), cooking (4%), heating (4%), and other/unknown (8%).

The percentage of fires per each type of educational facility is as follows: high school (36%), junior high (21%), elementary (19%), college/trade (16%), and other schools (8%). The state map reflects the number of fires reported per each county over the past five years. The number of reported fires is greatly exaggerated towards the eastern half of the state. Either the western half of the state doesn't have a fire problem in their educational facilities or they are not reporting ALL fires no matter how large or small they may be.



Kansas State Fire Marshal Prevention Division

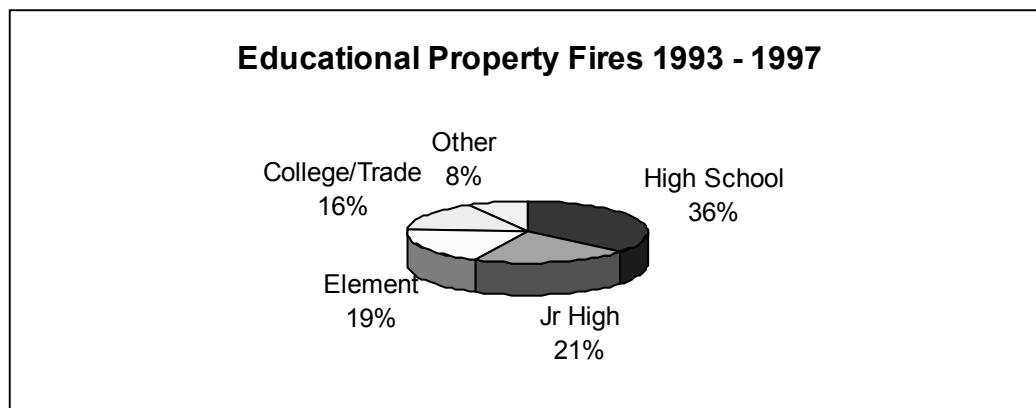
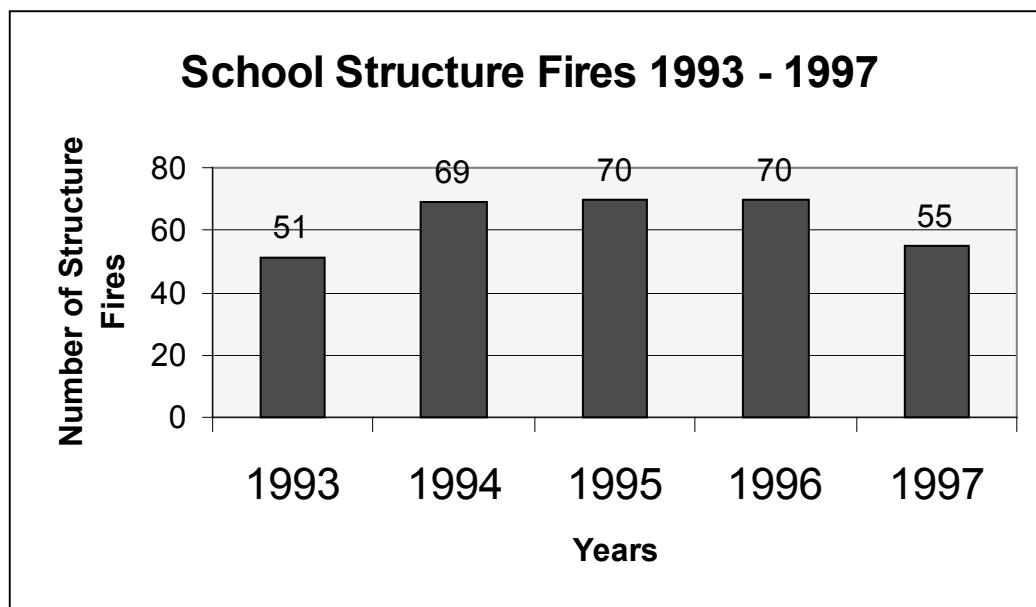
FIRE FACT NO. 052 CHECKLIST(s) :

TITLE : SCHOOL FIRE STATISTICS

CHECKLIST ITEM(s) :

REFERENCE(s) :

PAGE 2 of 4



Kansas State Fire Marshal Prevention Division

FIRE FACT NO. 052 CHECKLIST(s) :

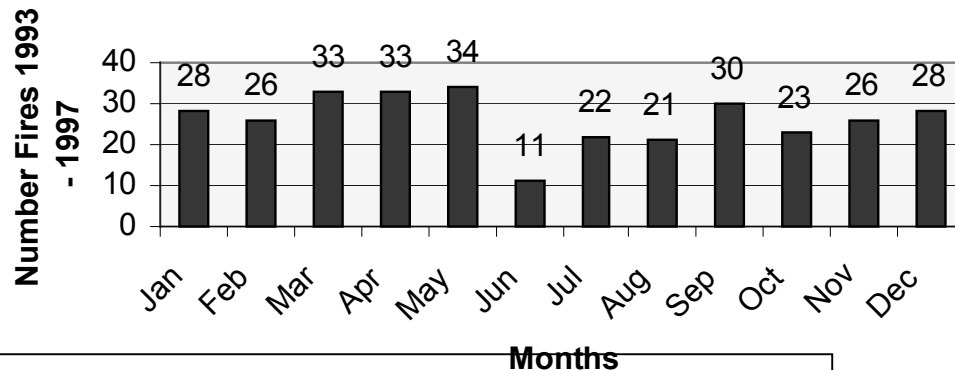
TITLE : SCHOOL FIRE STATISTICS

CHECKLIST ITEM(s) :

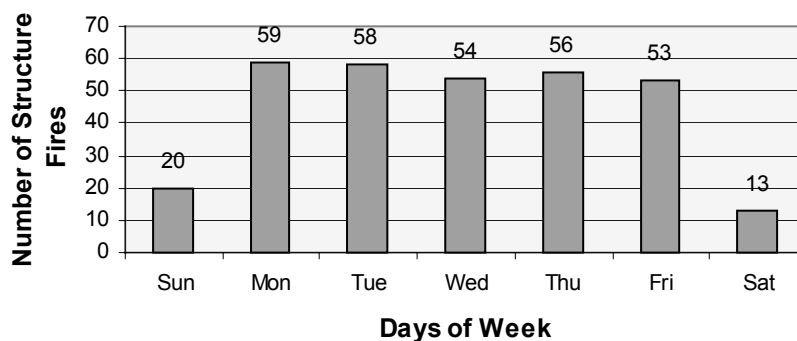
REFERENCE(s) :

PAGE 3 of 4

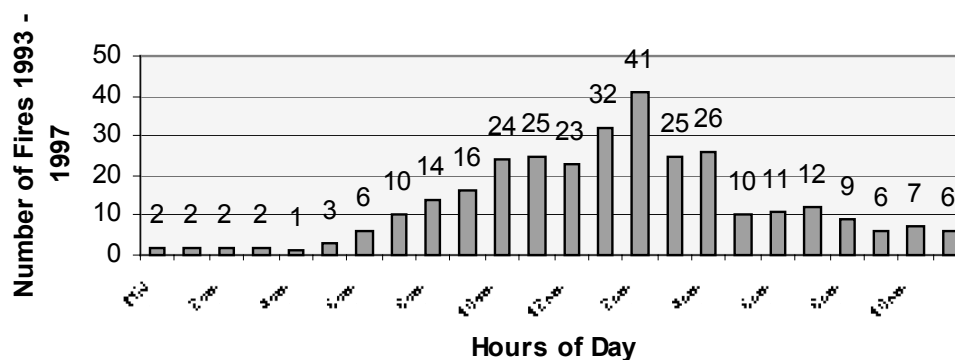
School Structure Fires By Month



School Structure Fires By Day



School Structure Fires By Hour



Kansas State Fire Marshal Prevention Division

FIRE FACT NO. 052 CHECKLIST(s) :

TITLE : SCHOOL FIRE STATISTICS

CHECKLIST ITEM(s) :

REFERENCE(s) :

PAGE 4 of 4

